

Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 1, 4-6, 17, 21-23, 25-27, 37, and 45-46, and cancel Claims 9-10, 12-16, and 38-40, all as shown below.

1. (Currently Amended) A memory for storing data for access by an application program being executed on a computer system, comprising:

 a data structure stored in said memory, the data structure including or referring to:

 a name;

 a content repository identifier;

 a plurality of properties;

 a plurality of property definitions associated with the plurality of properties; and

 a reference to a parent data structure in a virtual content repository (VCR); and

a reference to a child data structure in the VCR;

 wherein the data structure is logically part of ~~a virtual content repository (VCR)~~ the VCR, and wherein the VCR represents a plurality of content repositories logically as a single content repository from the application program's viewpoint; and

wherein the reference to a parent data structure and the reference to a child data structure enables traversal of the VCR.

2. (Original) The memory of claim 1 wherein the content repository identifier comprises:

 a repository name; and

 a content identifier that is unique for the content repository.

3. (Canceled).

4. (Currently Amended) The memory of claim 1 wherein:

 a property is an association between a name and at least one value; and

 wherein the at least one value ~~can be~~ is stored in one of the at least one content repositories.

5. (Currently Amended) The memory of claim 4 wherein:

the at least one value ~~can be~~ is a text string, a number, an image, audio and visual presentation, or binary data.

6. (Currently Amended) The memory of claim 1 wherein:
a property definition ~~can specify~~ specifies at least one of the following for a property:
property choices;
a reference;
a data type;
whether the property is mandatory;
whether the property is multi-valued;
whether the property is primary;
whether the property is read-only; and
whether the property is restricted.
7. (Previously Presented) The memory of claim 1 wherein:
the data structure is hierarchically related to other data structures and the plurality of content repositories.
8. (Previously Presented) The memory of claim 7 wherein:
the data structure is hierarchically inferior to the plurality of content repositories.
- 9-16. (Canceled).
17. (Currently Amended) A memory for storing virtual content repository (VCR) information for access by an application program being executed on a computer system, comprising:
a data structure stored in said memory, the data structure including:
a root node;
a first set of nodes wherein each node in the first set ~~can be~~ is hierarchically related in the VCR to at least one other node in the first set, and wherein all nodes in the first set are hierarchically inferior to the root node;
a second set of nodes associated with the first set of nodes, wherein the second set of nodes provides schema information for the first set of nodes;

wherein the schema information provides information regarding nodes, its children in the VCR, and its parent in the VCR in the first set of nodes;

wherein the VCR represents a plurality of content repositories logically as a single content repository from the application program's viewpoint;

wherein each one of the first set of nodes has an identifier that indicates its logical location in ~~the~~ a hierarchy in the VCR formed by the first set of nodes;

wherein each one of the first set of nodes ~~can represent~~ represents one of: 1) a node container; 2) repository content; and 3) a repository; and

wherein each one of the first set of nodes ~~can be~~ is associated with at least one property.

18-19. (Canceled).

20. (Original) The memory of claim 17 wherein:

a property is an association between a name and at least one value.

21. (Currently Amended) The memory of claim 20 wherein:

the at least one value ~~can be~~ is a text string, a number, an image, an audio and visual presentation, or binary data.

22. (Currently Amended) The memory of claim 17 wherein:

a second node belonging to the second set of nodes ~~can be~~ is associated with at least one property definition.

23. (Currently Amended) The memory of claim 22 wherein:

a property definition ~~can specify~~ specifies at least one of the following for a property:

property choices;

a reference;

a data type;

whether the property is mandatory;

whether the property is multi-valued;

whether the property is primary;

whether the property is read-only; and
whether the property is restricted.

24. (Original) The memory of claim 22 wherein:

there is a property definition for each property associated with each one of the first set of nodes.

25. (Currently Amended) The memory of claim 17 wherein:

a first node belonging to the first set of nodes that represents a container ~~can be is~~ hierarchically inferior to a second node belonging to the first set of nodes that represents one of: 1) a container; and 2) a repository.

26. (Currently Amended) The memory of claim 17 wherein:

a first node belonging to the first set of nodes that represents a repository ~~can be is~~ a direct child of the root node.

27. (Currently Amended) The memory of claim 17 wherein:

a first node belonging to the first set of nodes that represents content ~~can be is~~ a direct or indirect child of a second node belonging to the first set of nodes that represents one of: 1) repository content; 2) a container; and 3) a repository.

28-36. (Canceled).

37. (Currently Amended) A memory for storing data for access by an application program being executed on a computer system, comprising:

a plurality of first objects to provide a first group of services related to interacting with a hierarchical namespace, wherein the first group of services comprise first functions that enable associating the plurality of first objects with locations in the namespace;

a plurality of second objects to provide a second group of services related to associating information with the first object, wherein the second group of services comprise second functions that enable creating, reading, updating, and deleting the information;

a plurality of third objects to provide a third group of services related to describing attributes of the plurality of second objects, wherein the third group of services comprise third functions that enable specifying at least one of the following for the plurality of objects:

property choices;
a reference;
a data type;
whether the property is mandatory;
whether the property is multi-valued;
whether the property is primary;
whether the property is read-only; and
whether the property is restricted;

wherein the plurality of first objects is logically part of a virtual content repository (VCR) and includes a reference to a parent object in the VCR and a reference to a child object in the VCR, and wherein the VCR represents a plurality of content repositories logically as a single content repository from the application program's viewpoint.

38-40. (Canceled).

41. (Original) The memory of claim 37 further comprising:

a plurality of fourth objects to specify locations of the plurality of first objects in the namespace.

42. (Original) The memory of claim 41 wherein each of the plurality of fourth objects includes:

a content repository name; and
a content identifier that is unique for the content repository.

43. (Canceled).

44. (Original) The memory of claim 37, further comprising:

a fifth object to provide a fifth set of services related to searching the VCR;

45. (Currently Amended) The memory of claim 37 wherein:
each of the plurality of second objects associates a name and at least one value; and
wherein the at least one value ~~can be~~ is stored in one of the plurality of content repositories.
46. (Currently Amended) The memory of claim 45 wherein:
the at least one value ~~can be~~ is a text string, a number, an image, an audio and visual presentation, or binary data.
47. (Previously Presented) The memory of claim 37 wherein:
the first object is hierarchically related to other objects and to the plurality of content repositories.
48. (Original) The memory of claim 37, further comprising:
a sixth object to provide a sixth set of services related to configuring the VCR.
49. (Canceled).